[30th January 1934

Agriculture

Levy of duty by His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government on rice exported from this Province.

* 540 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any reply from the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam on the matter referred to in answer to question No. 322, dated 3rd November 1933; and

(*b*) whether they have addressed the Government of India on the question of negotiating the modification of the commercial treaty of 1802 with His Exalted Highness the Nizam by the removal of 5 per cent duty on rice?

A.—(*a*) His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government are still considering the matter.

(*b*) No.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" May I ask why the Government have not mentioned this matter and addressed a letter to the Government of India? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Unless we know what the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam has to say in the matter, we cannot do anything."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" My question is about the removal of the 5 per cent duty on rice? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" We are awaiting the reply of the Nizam's Government."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know when correspondence was started with the Nizam's Government on this point? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I cannot say off-hand."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether any reply has been received? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" The printed answer contains the information."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" The answer says that the Nizam's Government are still considering the matter. My question is whether any reply has been received? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I am afraid I cannot add anything to what has already been said."

Measures for improving the level of prices of paddy and other agricultural produce.

* 541 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state categorically what specific steps have been taken till now and what proposals are still

30th January 1934]

under consideration of the Government for bringing about an improvement in the prices of paddy and other agricultural produce in this province?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers given to questions Nos. 85 and 354 on 2nd August 1933, and 4th November 1933, respectively. The Agent, South Indian Railway, has since reported that the concession rates of railway freight for rice exported to Colombo would be continued until a further notification is issued. The Government have also under consideration in connexion with the Budget Estimate for 1934–35 proposals for the constitution of a Provincial Marketing Board and the appointment of a Provincial Marketing Officer to assist the Board in improving the marketing facilities for agricultural produce. The Government propose to appoint at once a special officer to conduct preliminary inquiries and collect statistics in regard to the prices of rice and the marketing facilities available for it which will be useful to the Provincial Marketing Officer proposed to be appointed in the next financial year.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether the Government have done anything to prevent the importation of Japan and Siam rice into our province?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The Government have not done anything in the matter, because the quantity imported is not such as to warrant action."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Besides taking action in the manner done, viz., the appointment of a special officer or provincial marketing officer, may I ask whether the Government have explored the possibility of establishing co-operative sales and marketing society?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The special officer will consider that question."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Sir, the Telugu districts are all bordering on the M. & S.M. Railway. May I know why the Government have not taken steps to secure concession rates from that railway?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"If there is necessity for getting concession from the M. & S.M. Railway, the Government will take steps therefor."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Are Government taking any steps to control the import of foreign rice?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"This Government are not taking any steps."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the duties proposed to be given to the provincial marketing officer cannot be done by the Co-operative Department?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" To some extent they can and they are doing them."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—" Are there any figures showing the quantity of foreign rice imported? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON :—" Have the Government taken steps to prevent the bringing in copra from Ceylon? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" No."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Are the Government prepared to recommend to the Government of India the imposition of a heavy duty on rice imported into this country? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The hon. Member's suggestion will be considered."

Local Self-Government

No-confidence motion against the President, Taluk Board, Guntur.

* 542 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what action the Government have taken on the vote of no confidence passed by the Taluk Board, Guntur, on its president?

A.—Government have taken no action in the matter as the question whether or not the motion had been passed by the requisite majority was not free from doubt.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I ask why the Government have not taken any action on the resolution passed by the Guntur Taluk Board? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" For the information of the hon. Member, I may state that we have issued a notice to the Taluk Board to show cause why it should not be dissolved."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" Is it after the passing by that taluk board of the motion of no-confidence in its chairman that the order to show cause against dissolution was issued? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The reasons are stated in the notice. But I may state there has been a deadlock in the taluk board for the last so many months."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" May I ask whether the Government have mentioned the no-confidence resolution in their notice? "

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The no-confidence motion has nothing to do with our action."